

Documents on Diplomacy: The Source

"Jay has Managed this Negotiation Dishonestly..."
James Monroe to Thomas Jefferson, New York, July 16, 1786

Dear Sir,
...In my last I advised you of an intrigue on foot under the management of Jay to occlude the Mississippi supported by the delegation of Massachusetts. Since my last no further measures have been openly taken in the business yet it is not relinquished. As yet there hath not been a fair trial of the sense of Congress on the subject. I have a conviction in my own mind that Jay has managed this negotiation dishonestly. On the other hand I am persuaded that the minister here has no power on the subject. Yet I am firmly persuaded that he has conducted himself in such manner in this business as to give him & his court hopes which the sense of Congress nor his instructions authorise. Having been on all foreign business lately, indeed since you left us, I have had an opportunity of knowing him well, & this communication is founded in circumstances this opportunity hath given me. . . . I am, Dear Sir, your affectionate friend & servant—

JAMES MONROE

Source

The Emerging Nation: A Documentary History of the Foreign Relations of the United States under the Articles of Confederation, 1780-1789, Mary A. Giunta, Editor-in-Chief, Volume III. Washington, DC : Government Printing Office, 1996.

LC: *Jefferson Papers*, microfilm reel 5(ALS).